

MINUTES
LAKETOWN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
4338 BEELINE ROAD
ALLEGAN COUNTY
HOLLAND, MI 49423

REGULAR MEETING
March 14, 2018

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called the regular monthly Board of Trustees meeting to order at 8:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Hofmeyer, Wendy Van Huis, Ed Stielstra,
Gary Dewey, Linda Howell
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
STAFF PRESENT: Al Meshkin – Township Manager
Kathy Stoike – Administrative Assistant/Finance
Charlene Fields – Deputy Treasurer
Jenifer French – Deputy Clerk
Staci Veldt – Rental Coordinator
Paul Smith – Township Assessor
Doug Den Bleyker – Fire Chief
Diane Ybarra – Recording Secretary
Dan Williams – Township Maintenance

ARTICLE II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the February 14, 2018 meeting. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Howell to approve the minutes as submitted. Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE III. FINANCIAL REPORT/REVIEW & APPROVE THE BILLS

Supervisor Hofmeyer reviewed the bills for the month of February 2018. Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve and pay the bills as submitted. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE IV. CORRESPONDENCE - None

ARTICLE V. CITIZEN COMMENT'S COMMENTS ON OLD AND NEW BUSINESS - None

ARTICLE VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. FY 2017-18 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Al Meshkin reviewed the FY 2017-18 amended budget noting that nothing has significantly been changed. Al Meshkin reviewed the budget highlighting an approximate \$50,000 increase in revenue but also additional expenditures for road work, fire and bike pathways.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Howell and seconded by Van Huis to approve the amended budget for FY 2017-18. Supervisor Terry Hofmeyer called for a vote. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

ARTICLE VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 2018-19 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Hofmeyer opened the public hearing on the FY 2018-19 Budget.

Udelis Kuipers of 6104 142nd Avenue said he does not like the way Meshkin wastes township money siting the emergency access by the greenhouse right off 142nd Avenue. Kuipers also asked for a bible to be placed on the front of the desk of the board members.

Mitra Delaney of 6298 144th Avenue presented a letter and reviewed the noted concerns: reduction in taxes; more information on the township website; better microphone system in the meeting room; termination of the emergency access project. Delaney claimed to have signatures from over 100 residents who have signed a petition against the access however the signed petitions were not submitted at Hofmeyer's repeated request to do so.

Dick Becker of 2382 Valley said the township has nickel and dimed for the fiber optic project and asked why there is \$25,000 in the new budget. Hofmeyer said the money will remain in the budget but unlikely to be spent unless there is an opportunity to partner for limited service but those not wanting it would not be asked to participate.

Bob Lamar of 4612 66th Street expressed concern regarding the expenditures for fiber optics; emergency access project; and perceived lack of board members' adequate study of the budget.

Udelis Kuipers expressed discontent for several township employees.

Bob Slikkers of 6553 Creekwood expressed the critical need for fiber optics in the township. Hofmeyer stated that he continues to meet with interested parties to brainstorm feasible options including the potential for state and federal funding.

John Fulenwider of 4764 Wildwood and 4313 Amphitheater volunteered to work with the committee to support the fiber optic project noting that he has technical experience to do so.

Supervisor Hofmeyer closed the public hearing.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Howell and seconded by Dewey to approve the FY 2018-19 Budget.**

Howell clarified that she and the board members have been looking at the budget for a considerable time asking questions all of which were clearly answered by Meshkin with no issue. Hofmeyer echoed Howell's comments noting that the process starts in December and while citizen comments are valued, it is the elected officials' responsibility to approve the budget. It seems that most residents are pleased with the workings of the township highlighting the fact that only twelve people made appointments with the Board of Review to discuss their tax bill this March. Hofmeyer thanked the board members for their diligence. Van Huis expressed her appreciation for Meshkin and the staff.

Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

B. CONSENT TO CHEF CONTAINER CONTRACT TRANSFER

Terry Hofmeyer explained that Chef Container was sold to Republic Services and this item is to approve the transfer of the current Chef contract to Republic.

Following discussion **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Van Huis to approve the Chef Container Contract Transfer. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

C. RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP

Hofmeyer explained the resolution is to support submission of grant applications by the Saugatuck Township Board of Trustees for the North Connections of the Blue Star Trail and Expansion of Non-Motorized Trail Way in Saugatuck Township.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Dewey and seconded by Stielstra to approve Resolution 2018-06 Support for Saugatuck Township. Supervisor Hofmeyer called for vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED**

D. 2018 ROAD WORK

Terry Hofmeyer reviewed the proposed 2018 Road Work to resurface 62nd Street from the city limits south to 144th Avenue; Beeline from 144th to 142nd Avenues; dust control and 4 roadside mowings, one paid by the county.

Following discussion, **a motion was made by Van Huis and seconded by Stielstra to approve the 2018 Road Work.**

Dewey asked who to contact for potholes and it was noted to contact Allegan County Road Commission.

Supervisor Hofmeyer called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

ARTICLE VIII. CITIZEN’S COMMENTS

Tom Crum of 144th Avenue expressed his discontent for members of the board, cost of taxes and increasing property values. He suggested that the board members take a week to do a door to door survey to residents’ feedback.

John Fulenwider asked when the next election is and if all board members would be running for re-election.

ARTICLE IX. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Van Huis and seconded by Dewey to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 P.M. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED

Wendy Van Huis, Township Clerk

Diane Ybarra, Recording Secretary